

[29th January 1923]

The hon. Mr. A. R. KNAPP :—“ I do not think that any useful purpose will be served by Government calling for the information. That is as regards (a). As regards (d) I do not think it is a matter of public interest. It has already been stated that he is not paid from public funds.”

Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD SADULLA BADSHA SAHIB :—“ The information would be very useful for the Muhammadan public as they should know who constructed the mosque and under whose orders.”

Memorial from Mr. Abdul Sammad of Godavari.

679 Q.—Khan Sahib Munshi MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received a memorial from Mr. M. Abdul Sammad, probationary sub-registrar of Godavari, regarding his work in recruitment ; and

(b) what action is taken by Government about the said memorial ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Government do not see their way to exempt the memorialist from passing the Registration Test.

Moslem representation in the Revenue department in Chittoor district.

680 Q.—Khan Sahib Munshi MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number and names of Muhammadans employed in the district of Chittoor as—

- (1) deputy collectors,
- (2) tahsildars,
- (3) deputy tahsildars or sub-magistrates,
- (4) revenue inspectors, and

(b) what steps are taken to secure qualified Muhammadans for the abovesaid posts ?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the latest Quarterly Civil List and the district revenue establishment list which have been placed in the Legislative Council library.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to G.O. No. 658, Public, dated 15th August 1922, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.

Railway accident near Narasaraopet on Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.

681 Q.—Khan Sahib Munshi MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a railway accident on Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway between Satulur and Narasaraopet on the night of the 13th November 1922 ;

(b) what was the cause of this accident and the number of lives lost and the damage done to property ;

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(c) who were the persons responsible for this accident ; and what action Government have taken in the matter ; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to lay the whole file on the table ?

A.—(a) An accident occurred at the place referred to, on the 12th November 1922.

(b) The accident was due to a breach in the line caused by the bursting of tanks situated near the Railway. Four passengers and two firemen were killed and three passengers injured. A list of damage to permanent way, stock, etc., is annexed.*

(c) The accident was due to causes beyond control, namely, to a flood caused by the bursting of tank bunds. The enquiries made did not show that a charge of omission or neglect lay against any member of the Railway staff and no further action was called for.

(d) There is no other information which can be placed on the table.

Irrigation facilities from Kottapalli channel, Cuddapah district.

682 Q.—Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(1) whether any estimate has been prepared for the repair or diversion of the Kottapalli channel, irrigating lands in the villages of Moadamidipalli and Kottapalli near Proddatur town, Proddatur taluk ;

(2) whether the Collector demanded half the cost of the estimate to be borne by the ryots ;

(3) whether the spring head of this channel is completely silted up ;

(4) what is the extent of land irrigated by this channel and whether it is classed as dry or wet ;

(5) whether any of the lands are now cultivated with wet crops ; and

(6) whether the Government are collecting or attempting to collect wet assessment for dry crops ?

A.—(1) to (5) The Government have no information.

(6) When dry crops are raised on wet lands the usual wet assessment is levied except in cases where the remission rules apply.

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—“ With reference to answer to paragraphs (1) to (5), will the Government be pleased to call for the information as it affects a large number of ryots ? ”

The hon. Sir K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—“ Yes.”

Irrigation facilities of the Pallavanar river, Tanjore.

683 Q.—Mr. V. P. PAKKIRISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member and the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(i) whether it is a fact that Pallavanar as stated in the present Tanjore resettlement scheme report, pages 41 and 42, was classified as a second-class

* Vide Appendix B on page 1289 infra.